GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:951
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2016
Disposal of Expired Medicines
Rathore Shri Hariom Singh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several allopathic medicines imported from various countries cross their expiry date during transportation;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the quantity and value of imported medicines expired during the last three years;

(c) whether there is any mechanism to destroy/dispose of such expired medicines;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken/being taken by the Government for the indigenously manufacturing of medicines in the country?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a): As per rule 31 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, the Licensing Authority does not allow import of any drug having less than sixty percent of the residual shelf life on the date of import. In exceptional cases, the Licensing Authority could, for reasons to be recorded in writing, allow, import of any drugs having lesser shelf life period. Further, as per sub-rule (17) of rule 65, no drug can be sold or stocked by the licencee after the date of expiration of the potency recorded on its container, label or wrapper, or in violation of any statement or direction recorded on such container, label or wrapper.

(b) to (d): Does not arise.

(e): India is one of the largest producers of generic drugs in the world and Department of Pharmaceuticals has been providing all necessary support for growth of Indian Pharma Industry.